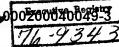
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DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

14 may 1976.

Dear Hal.

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Admiral H. E. Shear Vice Chief of Naval Operations Washington, D. C. 20350

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VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS 1 May 1976

Dear Dick.

I note from comments in the press that you will be retiring in the near future. I also note a lot of uncomplimentary nonsense about you in various articles which I know to be nothing more than pap.

First of all, I want to say I am sorry to see you retiring. There are not many Dick Walters' around, and we can ill afford to lose you. None-theless, at this stage of your career, I can see your reasoning for your decision.

I simply want to say that for my money, Dick Walters is a hell of a guy. I value very much our past associations and our friendship. I wish you well in your retirement and the very best of good fortune in future endeavors.

Most sincerely,

LTGEN Vernon A. Walters, USA Deputy Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505